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No. 17, 116

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HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 1918.

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Hongkong, April 1, 1918.

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THE GREAT BATTLE.

LIKELY TO CONTINUE FOR WEEKS.

A STATEMENT BY MR. LLOYD GEORGE.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

ENEMY OCCUPY NIESE AND BAPAUME.

HEAVY FIGHTING CONTINUES.

London, Mar. 26.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—

There has been very severe fighting throughout the day on wide fronts southward of Peronne and southward and northward of Bapaume.

The enemy attacked our positions in great strength with fresh forces, and, despite gallant resistance, we were forced to give ground. The enemy occupy Niele and Bapaume. Heavy fighting continues.

GREAT WORK BY BRITISH AVIATORS.

London, Mar. 26.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, reporting on aviation, says:—

There is very great aerial activity. The day was remarkable for the weight of the bombs dropped and the number of flights. Many thousands of rounds were fired from low altitudes upon the enemy's troops.

Aeroplanes reported the progress of the battle, and informed the artillery of suitable targets.

Low-fliers bombed and machine-gunned masses of troops in the battle area.

Over 1,700 bombs were dropped at day-time on different targets, including the Bruges dock, the Aulnoye railway station, a large camp south-eastward of Cambrai, high velocity guns and hostile reinforcements.

The fighting is the most severe experienced.

We brought down 47 enemy machines and drove down 22 out of control.

Ten of ours are missing.

After dark we continued bombing and machine-gunning enemy troops opposite the battle front and also bombed the Bruges dock and the aerodrome between Tournai and Mons, used by night-fliers. Over 40 tons of bombs were dropped. All our planes returned. One large enemy bomber landed behind our lines.

Following the successful day-light raid on Mannheim and other objectives in Germany, we attacked, at night-time, We dropped half a ton of bombs on the railway stations of Cologne, starting a fire.

Over a ton of bombs were distributed on the Luxembourg railway station, where a fire was started, and on the Concelles railway station, eastward of Metz, and two tons on the Metz railway station. Direct hits were secured on a bridge south-east of the town and on a stationary train which caught fire and a large fire also started. Also a ton of bombs were dropped on the Thionville railway station, where a moving train was derailed and a fire caused.

All our machines returned.

FIELD-MARSHAL HAIG TO HIS MAJESTY THE KING.

London, Mar. 25.

The Press Bureau states:—
Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig has sent the following reply to His Majesty's message:—

"Your Majesty's message has given universal encouragement to the whole Army. I beg Your Majesty to accept our grateful thanks and the assurance that we will steadfastly continue to do our utmost to deserve the inspiring confidence Your Majesty and our people throughout the Empire have placed in us in this hour of national stress."

On the contrary, British opinion is confident of the Allied reserve power and is rallying to a determination to stand up to a most protracted conflict.

BRITISH CABINET'S MESSAGE.

NATION'S THANKS TO THE ARMY.

REINFORCEMENTS RUSHED UP.

London, Mar. 25.

The Press Bureau publishes the following:—

The Cabinet wishes to express to the Army the Nation's thanks for its splendid defence. The whole Empire is filled with pride, watching the heroic resistance of the brave troops against overwhelming odds. Knowing their steadfastness and courage whenever the country's honour depends on their valour, the Empire confidently awaits the result of this struggle to defeat the enemy's last desperate effort to trample down free nations.

We at home are prepared to do all in our power to help in a true spirit of comradeship. Men necessary to replace all the casualties, and guns and machine-guns, required to make good the losses, are either now in France or already en route. Still further reinforcements of men and guns are ready to be thrown into battle.

LLOYD GEORGE.

AN IRON DETERMINATION.

BRITISH PUBLIC OPINION NOT DEPRESSED.

London, Mar. 26.

As evidence develops that the Germans are not likely to gain a decision in face of the magnificent British resistance, public opinion, which, though anxious, has never been unduly depressed, is now bracing itself in a determination to acquiesce in whatever measures are necessary to meet an admittedly critical situation. All contention has been silenced.

There was a flicker of labour restlessness at Manchester recently, when the unofficial representatives of the Engineers threatened to strike against the man-power proposals, but this has promptly been extinguished by an outburst of popular indignation in which even the Pacifists have joined, and meetings of district branches of the Amalgamated Engineers yesterday repudiated the Manchester decisions in which the Executive had no part.

Everywhere unshaken confidence is expressed that the undaunted front presented by the British troops will baffle the enemy who, with troops four to five times more numerous, only scored a moderate success but endured colossal losses, and are already showing signs of flagging. The net result of the German movement so far is the making of three bulges in the British line, namely, south of Arras, at Bapaume and towards Niele, but he failed in the North, where the steadiness of the British line checked the enemy's double thrust.

THE ENEMY POLITICAL OBJECT.

That the enemy's offensive has a political object is corroborated in an article by a prominent London citizen, Mr. Ernest Pyke, who was released from Ruhleben after 83 years. He frequently visited Berlin as camp kitchen inspector.

Mr. Pyke says the present desperate move is undoubtedly dictated by fear of the mob as the German people are suffering unspeakable privations and are aching for peace and food. This estimate is confirmed by reiterated assurances in enemy communications recently that peace is near at hand.

On the contrary, British opinion is confident of the Allied reserve power and is rallying to a determination to stand up to a most protracted conflict.

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THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED.)

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As follows:—
Stained Teak Dining Room Suite,
Desk, Fender, etc., "Jacobean Style";
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Music Cabinet, Special Artists Model,
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Also
One KOREAN CABINET.
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Fittings, etc.
(Full Particulars from Catalogue).
On view day of Sale.
Terms:—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, Mar. 23, 1918. 281

PUBLIC AUCTION

THE Undersigned have received instructions from the Liquidator of the HAMBURG AMERICA LINE, to sell by Public Auction

THURSDAY,

the 28th March, 1918, at 11 a.m.,
at No. 3 Duddell Street.
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Also
One STEEL SAFE by Arnheim, Berlin,
64 x 43 x 31.
One STEEL SAFE by Milner & Co.,
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Books, etc., etc.
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Hongkong, Mar. 22, 1918. 283

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THE Undersigned have received instructions from the Liquidators of the Firm of Messrs. FURCHAU LOWTHAN & Co., to sell by Public Auction,

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Two 15-ft. Invenible vertical double
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engines (one left hand and one right
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Two Gates Rock and Ore Breakers
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One 50 in. by 10 in. Blake Crusher
(Fraser & Chalmers) with manganese
jaw plates.

Two Taylor's patent 1 yard Centrifuge
Mixers with Steel Framing and fittings,
various and spare gear.

One 6 in. Double Cylinder Manchester
Pump by Pearson & Co., 14 in. cylinders,
14 in. stroke with suction and delivery
pipes about 90 ft.

One 7 1/2 H.P. double cyl. Babcock Port-
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mountings.

One 5 in. Bolt-driven Centrifugal Pump
with suction and delivery pipes about
75-80 ft.

Also
A quantity of Steel Wire Rope, Old
Metal, etc.
On view from Sat. April.
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Hongkong, Mar. 20, 1918. 101

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Hongkong, March 20, 1918.

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Hongkong, Mar. 22, 1918. 276

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Hongkong, August 2, 1917. 303

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CO., LTD.**
Alexandra Buildings,
Hongkong, August 11, 1917.

BRITISH AND GERMAN PROCLAMATIONS.

A STUDY IN COMPARATIVE CULTURE.

The two documents below form a striking contrast. One is the official proclamation of General Allenby, the British Commander-in-Chief in Palestine upon the occasion of the British entry into Jerusalem; the other is the official proclamation issued by the headquarters of the German Military Government at Udine to the inhabitants remaining in the conquered Italian territory.

If fresh proof is needed of the different manner in which Great Britain and Germany wage war, it can be found in a perusal of the proclamations side by side.

Proclamation of General Allenby read to the inhabitants of Jerusalem from the steps of the Citadel, in Arabic, Hebrew, English, French, Italian, Greek and Russian:—
To the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Blessed and the people dwelling in the vicinity:—

The defeat inflicted upon the Turks by the troops under my command has resulted in the occupation of your city by my forces. I, therefore, here and now, proclaim it to be under martial law, under which form of administration it will remain so long as military considerations make it necessary. However, lest any of you should be alarmed by reason of your experience at the hands of the enemy who has retired, I hereby inform you that it is my desire that every person should pursue his lawful business without fear of interruption.

Furthermore, since your city is regarded with affection by three of the great religions of mankind, and its soil has been consecrated by the prayers and pilgrimages of devout people of these three religions for many centuries, therefore do I make it known unto you that every sacred building, monument, holy spot, shrine, traditional site, endowment, pious bequest, or customary place of prayer, will be maintained and protected according to the existing customs and beliefs of those to whose faiths they are sacred.

Guards have been placed at Bethlehem and at Rachel's tomb. The tomb at Hebron has been placed under exclusive Moslem control. The hereditary custodians of the Walf at the gates of the Holy Sepulchre have been requested to take up their accustomed duties in remembrance of the magnanimous act of the Caliph Omar, who protected that church.

GERMANY'S WAR PROFITS.

"NO ANNEXATIONS" IN A TRUE LIGHT.

THE TRIUMPH OF PRUSSIANISM.

Germany's economic gain by the war, were it to end now, is made clear by M. André Cheradame, the eminent authority on Pan-Germanism, in a popular pamphlet on "German war profits and the German formula: 'No annexations, no indemnities.'" Points of his analysis of German war profits are given in "The Times."

M. Cheradame shows that in three years the domain of German militarism has increased from an area of 540,000 square kilometres, inhabited by 66,000,000 of people, to an area of 3,600,000 square kilometres, containing 180,000,000 inhabitants, and reveals that the Russian Soviets' "No annexations, no indemnities" formula on March 28th was inspired by German agents. Its acceptance would mean:—

(1) Germany would keep her grip on her essential territorial acquisitions.
(2) The Allies would be left with the crushing burden of their own unprecedented war-expenditure.
(3) Germany would retain her gigantic war profits, which are infinitely greater than the losses she has suffered.

£8,400,000,000. morris.
M. Cheradame analyses serialism the chief war profits of Germany. On the basis of the proportionate estimated wealth before the war of the countries and territories occupied, he calculates the value of these territories at approximately £8,400,000,000. Apart from this value, Germany has secured transportable booty in the shape of:—

(1) Human material for labour.
(2) Immense quantities of war material, rolling stock, and means of transport. The Belgian railways alone are worth £120,000,000.
(3) Horses, cattle, and foodstuffs generally.
(4) Raw materials, such as coal, mineral oils, iron, copper, wood, cotton. In the industrial towns of North-Eastern France alone the Germans seized 222,000,000 worth of wool.
(5) The materials of industry—motors, machine tools, dynamo.

In conclusion M. Cheradame deals with the possibility of the economic exploitation of Russia by Germany, and the steps already taken by Germany to secure control of the Russian markets. Placing himself in the position of the German Government, he argues that it can claim to have secured the following advantages:—

(1) To have brought about a state of anarchy in Russia that has facilitated the taking of High and the conquest of the Baltic. (2) To have secured the discussion of the "No annexations, no indemnities" formula in Allied countries, without allowing Allied Socialists to suspect that the application of the formula would ensure the triumph of the German aristocracy. (3) To have carried on "detailed" propaganda in Allied countries and by Allied journals—a propaganda sufficiently effective to have contributed to the breaking of the "Italian Front." (4) To have spread a belief in the nearness of peace, and to have hidden behind a general peace discussion the preparations for the offensive against Italy.

Hence, in view of the present situation, Germany feels that she risks nothing by choosing to "negotiate" on the following basis:— "Recognition of the Society of Nations," evacuation of all occupied territory.

As the "Frankfurter Zeitung" insisted on December 20, 1917, "negotiations" are not a synonym for reconstruction; and

once negotiations are begun, they can be used to divide the Allies and finally to dupe them into conceding the essential German conditions. Therefore, adds M. Cheradame, the Allies must reject utterly the German formula of which the application would entail their ruin, and must oppose to it the democratic formula of Restitution, Reparation, and Guarantees—that is to say, punishment for crimes committed, reparation of damage done, and guarantees against any renewal of such a war.

Proclamation issued by the Headquarters of the German Military Government at Udine to the inhabitants of conquered Italy:—
A house-to-house search will be made for all concealed arms, weapons and ammunition.
All victuals remaining in the house must be delivered up.
Every citizen must obey our labour regulations.
All workmen, women, and children over 15 years old, are obliged to work in the fields every day, Sundays included, from 4 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Disobedience will be punished in the following manner:—
(1) Lazy workmen will be accompanied to their work and watched by Germans.
(2) After the harvest they will be imprisoned for 6 months, and every third day will be given nothing, but bread and water.
(3) Lazy women will be obliged to work, and after the harvest receive 6 months' imprisonment.
(4) Lazy children will be punished by beating. The commandant reserves the right to punish lazy workmen with 20 lashes daily.

DUTCH POLITICS.

OBLIGING THE GERMANS.

In the Second Chamber, on February 27th, Herr Beresyn attacked the Dutch Minister Posthuma's ability in appointing different commissions, the abuse of power, corruption of officials and the crooked line followed in affairs with foreign countries. He said that on October 17th two committees negotiated at the same time, one with Germany and one with England. The committee with England promised that no horses should be sent to Germany, but the committee with Germany promised to export 16,000 horses. The iron supplies promised for the shipyards had not arrived. He expressed the opinion that the Dutch Government was very obliging to Germany. We pay, he said, enormous prices to Germany for coal and iron, whilst Germany in ratio pays far less for our butter and cheese. The export of 5,000 horses was allowed in return for the transit of cement between Switzerland and Holland. He asked how the horse export was regulated now. The farmers profited and Minister Posthuma was putting profits into the farmers' pockets but not through the feeding of the population. Big profits were also being made by margarine and sugar manufacturers. Minister Posthuma was squandering public money.

The "Telegraaf" publishes an article by Herr Beresyn advising the stopping of the export of cheese and butter when the contract with Germany ends in March, as the scarcity at home is having an ill influence on the general health, especially of workpeople's children. He calculates that the area planted with cereals has decreased since 1915 and says the Minister's measures against the cultivation of plants for trading speculation have failed as the percentage of such cultivation for 1917 is higher even than the average for 1913-1915.

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**WAR NEWS.
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STRONG.**
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JOHNNIE WALKER "White Label" 6 years old.
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Worcestershire

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Blends perfectly with Spirits, especially Whisky.

"A little learning is a dangerous thing.
Drink deep or touch not the Pyerian Spring.
There shallow drafts intoxicate the Brain
And drinking deeply sobers us again."—Pope.

Pints 90 Cts. Per Doz.
Splits 60 " " "

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Hongkong, March 27, 1918.

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NOTICE.

BUTTER AND MARGARINE.

THE attention of Owners, Agents and Masters of Ships is directed to the fact that the exportation of Butter and Margarine, whether as SHIP'S STORES or CARGO, is absolutely PROHIBITED, except under permit from this Office. Permits will only be granted for such quantities as are considered necessary for the use of the ship. All applications for permits must be marked "For use on board the S.S." only and must be signed by the Ship's Owners, Agents or Masters who will be held responsible for any breach of the Conditions of such Permits.

D. W. TRATMAN,
Superintendent,
Imports and Exports.

Hongkong, March 27, 1918.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OFFICE.

NOTICE.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that on and after the 1st proximo and until further notice, the following Roads will be CLOSED to ALL except pedestrian traffic:

From Shaukiwan to Taitam Tuk.

From Taitam Tuk to Stanley.

From Stanley to Repulse Bay.

W. CHATHEAM,
Director of Public Works.

Public Works Department,
Hongkong, March 27, 1918.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE undersigned have received instructions from Messrs. A. R. MARBY & Co. to sell by Public Auction,

SATURDAY,

the 30th March, 1918, at 11 a.m., at Third Floor, St. George's Buildings, (above Messrs. Shaw, Tomes & Co.'s offices).

SUNDAY

VALUABLE OFFICE FURNITURE, therein contained.

Consisting of—

Desks, Counters, Shelves, Stationery Cupboards, &c., &c.

Also

Bound volumes Hongkong Government Gazette from 1884 to 1893 inclusive

And

One TYPEWRITER.

On view from Friday, the 29th, at Noon.

HUGHES & HUGHES,
Auctioneers.

Hongkong, March 27, 1918.

(Continued on Page 8.)

THE CALENDAR.

MEMO FOR TO-MORROW.

2.30 p.m.—Auction of Furniture by Messrs. Hughes & Hough at No. 28 Jordan Road, Kowloon.

GENERAL MEMORANDA.

Friday, March 29—

Good Friday.

Sunday, March 31—

Easter Sunday.

Wednesday, April 3—

2.30 p.m.—Auction of Furniture at Hughes & Hough's.

2.30 p.m.—Auction of Household Linens, &c. at Hughes & Hough's.

Friday, April 5—

11 a.m.—Auction of Messrs. Fumell, Lowther & Co.'s Contractors' plant at Mataukok.

Saturday, April 13—

3 p.m.—Marathon Race.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The Parcel Post Service to Shensi and Kansu provinces is suspended.

His Honour Judge Skinner Turner, of H. M. Supreme Court, Shanghai, leaves for England at the end of this month on home leave. Mr. Skinner Turner will accompany him.

The managing partner of the Yuen Wo Company at 61, Connaught Road Central has reported to the Police that between March 22 and 25, their store at 111, Canton Road, Kowloon, was broken into and 20 barrels of paraffin wax valued at \$1,200 were stolen.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the Hospitals:

J. D. Hutchison & Co.	\$100
Reiss & Co.	100
Alex. Ross & Co.	100
D. Sassoon & Co., Ltd.	100
E. D. Sassoon & Co.	100
H. Scott & Co.	100
Dodwell & Co., Ltd.	75
W. G. Humphreys & Co.	55
Asiatic Petroleum Co. (South China), Ltd.	50
Bradley & Co., Ltd.	50

The marriage took place recently at Shanghai of Miss Clarice Leslie, Kensington, Sydney, Australia, and Mr. Stuart Williamson, manager of Messrs. Moller and Co., Ltd., Hongkong. The ceremony was performed at H.M. Consulate-General before Sir Everard Fraser, K.C.M.G., and afterwards at the Cathedral by the Very Rev. Dean Walker. The bride recently arrived in Shanghai from Australia and the wedding was necessarily a quiet one. After the ceremony at the Cathedral the newly married couple were entertained to luncheon at Mr. Eric Moller's house in Route Ghisi, where a few intimate friends gathered to convey congratulations. Mr. and Mrs. Williamson, who were the recipients of some very beautiful presents, left in the afternoon for an up-country trip in a motor houseboat.

THE MAGISTRACY.

A MISTAKE THAT COST HIM.

DEAR.

Before Mr. A. Dyer Ball this morning, a dockyard labourer was charged with the theft of a quantity of brass valued at \$4 from the Kowloon Dock.

Defendant, who pleaded not guilty, said he forgot to put the brass back in the locker when he left the Dock.

An Indian watchman said the brass was found concealed about defendant's person as he was leaving the docks last night.

Mr. Dyer Ball sentenced the defendant to one month's hard labour and four hours' stocks.

ALLEGED SNATCHING.

A Chinese pleaded not guilty when charged before Mr. Dyer Ball this morning with snatching a pair of gold ear-rings from a Chinese woman at Des Voeux Road, yesterday.

Mr. Stevenson appeared for the defence.

Mr. Dyer Ball—What had you to say against Inspector Macdonald? A substantial bail, your Worship.

Mr. Stevenson—I would suggest \$25 bail.

Inspector Macdonald—And I would suggest a \$500 bail.

The bail was finally fixed at \$300, and the case was remanded until next week.

ALLEGED BRIBERY.

Two Chinese were brought before Mr. Dyer Ball this morning on the charge of attempting to bribe a lagoon.

Inspector Brown said the defendants who were living with a clansman in Jervois Street were commissioned by several men to export from the Colony a quantity of opium. They were coming back from their mission with about five tons of opium in their possession when a lagoon met them.

They were searched and one of the men offered the lagoon 50 cents. The lagoon said he arrested the defendants at the Jervois Street.

Mr. Ordiner who appeared for the defence said the opium was Government opium.

Mr. Dyer Ball remanded the case until next week being fixed at \$50.

A YOUNG THEIF.

Mr. Alderman of the Naval Dockyard charged his "boy" before Mr. Wood this morning with the theft of two ten-cent pieces from a drawer in his house at 183 Vanclose Road.

It was stated that the complainant had lost \$40 in that drawer recently.

The defendant, a lad of 16 admitted theft and was sentenced to three weeks' hard labour.

A LIFE SAVER.

IT is safe to say that Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy has saved the lives of more people and relieved more suffering than any other remedy in existence. It is known all over the civilized world for the speedy cures of cholera, the stomach disorders and all intestinal pains. For sale by all Chemists and Dispensaries.

COMPANY MEETINGS.

THE HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The forty-ninth ordinary meeting of shareholders of the above Company was held at the offices of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., Ltd., to-day at 11 a.m.

The Hon. Mr. D. LANDALE presided, and there were present the Hon. Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., Sir Robert Ho Tung, the Hon. Mr. E. Shellim, Mr. C. S. Gubbay, Mr. H. P. White and Mr. F. Maitland, (Consulting Committee), Mr. L. N. Lees (Secretary) and the Hon. Mr. Ho Fook and Messrs. D. V. Stevenson, H. Percy Smith, Ho Leung, G. K. Haxton, C. A. da Rosa, Lo Chan Shiu, C. W. Beswick, G. Grimble and A. R. Lowe.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, You will, I have no doubt, agree to my following the usual course of taking the Report and Accounts as read, for they have been in your hands for some time. The underwriting operations for the period under review have, I am glad to say, again been very successful. The loss ratio for the closed year works out at as low as 36.29%. The expense ratio is very moderate, and a substantial profit therefore has to be recorded for 1917. For 1917 also the underwriting results are, up to date, quite good, and if the second year's experience is up to the average we should again have a good profit to show on the termination of this year. Losses in the Far Eastern field have, if anything, been more numerous than usual. There have been large outbreaks in European occupied properties in the Philippines, in Kobe, and Hankow and Shanghai, and so we must, I think, regard ourselves as fortunate in having so good a result to show. The most adverse influence on our figures has been exchange. A year ago my predecessor in the Chair made reference to the 'diminution' which had been thus caused in the value of our Gold Assets expressed in local currency; and, of course, a corresponding shrinkage also occurs in the profits of our gold using Agencies affecting our Working Account. Since that date exchange has had a yet larger rise—from 2/4 to 3/—an increase of 25%. It is remarkable, I think, that in spite of this the Premium Income of the Company is at a level which was only exceeded in 1915. Our holding in British, Indian and Colonial Government securities has increased by £23,000, due to further purchases of British and Colonial War Loans. One of the results of this larger acquisition of gold assets has been that the amount held in reserve, to the credit of Investment and Exchange Fluctuation Account has proved insufficient, and as a loss actually occurred in 1917 the Working Account of that year has been debited with a sum sufficient to meet this, and leave a small balance to the credit of this Fund. Exchange, since the turn of the year, has risen still further, and the Consulting Committee regard it as wise, therefore, to pass the further sum of \$98,034.73 from the profits of Working Account 1916 to the credit of this Account. I regard this continuous writing off as constituting practically a hidden reserve, for it is quite clear that whenever exchange resorts to the level of pre-war days there will be an automatic return of a very large amount of dollars to the Company.

The Company's holding in Foreign Gold Loans is reduced, for an investment, referred to at our last Annual Meeting, in the Bonds of the Russian Government, has had to be heavily written down since the finances of that unfortunate country became involved in the throes and stress of the disintegrating influences of the gigantic revolution which is shaking the entire structure of that vast nation. You will, I make no doubt, applaud the action of the management in again contributing \$5,000 to the local fund for the support of war charities which received, I am glad to recall, your heartfelt approval a year ago. After making these provisions and appropriations, the balance of \$25,000 to the credit of Reserve Fund was available to recommend the payment out of the Working Account 1916 of the usual dividend of 25% per share, and I should add that the staff has not been forgotten. The pressure upon them is heavier and the difficulties of management grow greater in times such as these, and it will, I hope, have been in accordance with your wishes that the Consulting Committee voted a bonus of 15% on their salaries as was paid last year. During the course of 1917, an Ordinance was passed affecting Fire and Marine Insurance Companies transacting business in the Colony as was fore-shadowed in the Chairman's speech a year ago, and a similar measure has also become law in the Straits Settlements and is contemplated. I understand, also, by the Government of the Federated Malay States. The passing of the local Ordinance has, I am sure, and we believe it will be of benefit to the cause of peace and good insurance business generally. Gentlemen, the Company has now entered, upon its fifty-first year—its jubilee year. It is too much to hope that when this time next year we can say that the progress and activities of this small but vigorous

local Company, the feeling of satisfaction with which we may expect to contemplate them may no longer be overshadowed by the world's greatest tragedy, but that we may enter upon our fifty-first year of existence with the terror of the war behind us.

I now have pleasure in moving—That the Report and Accounts as presented, including the payment of a dividend of 25% per share; an addition of \$98,034.73 to the Investment and Exchange Fluctuation Account; of \$25,000 to the Reserve Fund; and the payment of a bonus to staff of 15% upon their salaries be adopted and passed.

Mr. D. V. STEVENSON seconded, and the motion was carried.

Mr. G. K. HAXTON proposed, and Mr. C. A. da ROSA seconded, the re-election to the Consulting Committee of the Hon. Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., Sir Robert Ho Tung, the Hon. Mr. E. Shellim and Messrs. H. P. White, F. Maitland and C. S. Gubbay, and the motion was carried.

Mr. C. W. BESWICK proposed, and the Hon. Mr. Ho Fook seconded, the re-election of Mr. H. Percy Smith and Mr. A. R. Lowe as auditors for the ensuing year, at a remuneration of \$500 each, and the motion was carried.

The CHAIRMAN then announced that Dividend Warrants were ready and the meeting terminated.

THE CHINA SUGAR REFINING CO., LIMITED.

The fortieth ordinary meeting of the shareholders of the above Company was held at the offices of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., Ltd., to-day at 11.30 a.m.

The Hon. Mr. D. LANDALE presided and there were present, the Hon. Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., the Hon. Mr. E. Shellim, Mr. A. O. Lang, Mr. H. P. White, and Mr. F. Maitland, (Consulting Committee), Mr. G. M. Shaw, (Manager), Mr. C. W. Beswick, (Secretary) and the Hon. Mr. Ho Fook, Messrs. A. R. Lowe, A. J. David, E. J. Crist, F. Smythe, F. M. P. da Graça, A. Crapnell, Lo Cheung Shiu, P. C. Potts, J. W. Stewart, Chow Po Sien, S. E. da Luz, Ho Kwong, H. R. Hancock, A. G. C. da Silva, E. M. Austin, D. G. M. Bernard, A. C. Davidson and H. M. H. Nemazeu.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, The Statement of accounts with the Auditors' certificate attached having been in your hands for some days, I will with your permission, take them as read. The result of the year's working shows a decrease of \$1,492.87 as compared with 1916, the actual net profit for the year being \$87,932.60 as against \$89,426.47. The usual Interim Dividend of \$2 per share was paid in August last and we now propose paying a final dividend of \$9 per share which I trust you will consider satisfactory. We are also in a position to add to our provision for contingencies amount to the extent of \$15,000 and carry forward \$14,432.60. Sales of Ice show a slight increase over 1916 which, when it is borne in mind that owing to the large increase in cost it was found necessary to increase the price by 1 cent per lb. must be considered satisfactory. The Cold Storage Branch however shows a decrease in revenue this year owing to the partial stoppage of the export of meat. Your Manager reports that all machinery and buildings at the works are in first class order and all launches and lighters have received their annual overhaul. Your General Managers have recently been approached by the Dairy Farm Co. with a view to their acquiring the business and undertaking of this Company. Their offer has been carefully considered and as your General Managers and your Consulting Committee are of the opinion that an amalgamation would be to the advantage of Shareholders has been provisionally accepted. A provisional agreement has been signed. Both offer and acceptance are, however, conditional upon the sanction of general meetings of the shareholders of each Company. The main terms of the Agreement are: the acquisition of the undertaking and business of this Company in return for the issue to shareholders of eight shares of the Dairy Farm Co. of \$7,500 each credit as fully paid up in respect of each share of this Company. It is proposed that our business be taken over from the 1st January last and that the accounts of the working of the two Companies be kept separate until the 31st July next. Provided the profits made by such working justify such a course an interim dividend equal to the interim dividend of \$2 per share which has been paid for the last 3 years will then be paid in respect of the Dairy Farm shares to be issued to Shareholders of this Company. After the 31st July the accounts of both businesses will be combined and the profits divided among Shareholders in the Dairy Farm Company of which the proposed future name is 'The Dairy Farm, Ice and Cold Storage Co., Ltd.' It is also a part of the arrangement that your General Managers in the Dairy Farm Company of \$7,500 each, credited as fully paid up, in consideration of certain restrictive covenants entered into by them and by way of bonus as compensation for their loss of office. An Extraordinary Meeting will be called shortly in connection with this matter and I have no doubt that you will then express your approval of the Agreement.

The CHAIRMAN proposed, and the Hon. Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., seconded, the adoption of the Report and Accounts, and the motion was carried.

The Hon. Mr. Ho Fook proposed and Mr. C. W. Beswick seconded, the re-election to the Consulting Committee of the Hon. Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., and the Rev. Father Robert, and the motion was carried.

Mr. Lo Cheung Shiu proposed, and Mr. A. R. Lowe seconded, the re-election of Mr. H. Percy Smith and Mr. A. R. Lowe as auditors for the ensuing year, at a remuneration of \$200 each, and the motion was carried.

The CHAIRMAN then announced that Dividend Warrants were ready and the meeting terminated.

THE RACE COURSE INQUIRY.

After Chief Inspector Kerr's examination yesterday, Det-Sgt. Hollands gave evidence. This witness detailed the steps he took to obtain the services of the Fire Brigade. Finding he could not send for the Fire Brigade through the telephone, witness got a motor-car and drove to No. 1 Station for a despatch box and returned within ten minutes of the collapse of the sheds.

Sgt. Marks also gave corroborative evidence regarding the poor pressure of water at the hydrants.

Sgt. F. Pitt, who was at the Fire Brigade Station when the collapse occurred said that when the alarm was given, he obtained all available assistance and proceeded on a motor-tender to the race course. The journey took about six or seven minutes. They had enough water from the three hydrants to one delivery at a pressure of about 90 lbs from the nozzle.

SOUNDS OF LASHINGS BEING CUT.

Li Po Lung, a property owner residing at 16 Des Voeux Road deposed that he was in shed No. 12 when the collapse occurred. About ten minutes to three o'clock his son told him that it seemed to him that some one was cutting the lashing below their shed. Witness heard three distinct sounds as though the lashings at the bottom of the uprights near where he was standing, were being cut. He felt an upright pole moving and told his children to run. They made for the exit, but when they got to the staircase the place was choked with people and the shed fell before they could get out. The floor, where he was standing sank like a lid.

By the Coroner—He did not think the sounds he heard were the cracking of lashing. He heard the sound of cutting at three regular and distinct intervals.

By Mr. Bowley—He did not know whether his younger brother heard the noises or not. He did not speak to him about them. He spoke of the noises to Mr. Potts some two days after the disaster.

By the Coroner—He did not warn the people because the men selling the sweeps called out to them not to run as nothing would happen. His party was the only one to run, but there were some excitement amongst other people.

When the inquiry was resumed this morning, Li Shi Pui son of Mr. Li Po Lung was called to give evidence. The boy who gave his age as 15 said he was with his father in shed No. 12 on the day of the disaster. He was on the lower floor. He heard sounds and thought the shed was falling. He believed the noise was caused by the lashings being cut below him. He heard the noise before the collapse. He did not see anyone cutting the lashings. The shed fell about one or two minutes after he heard the noises. He told his father that the shed was about to fall and asked him to listen to the noise. He stood listening for some time before he told his father. He did not tell his father that men were cutting the lashings. He did not think the noise was caused by the bursting of the lashings as the sound was different. The sounds he heard were regular and distinct.

By Mr. Wakenham—He did not go to the basement of this shed and did not know what it was used for.

By a Juror—He had not heard the bursting of bamboo lashings before.

By Mr. Bowley—He had often watched men taking down bamboo scaffolding and had often seen them cutting the lashings.

The managing partner of the Tes Hop firm was again recalled and said in reply to the Coroner that the models of Sheds 8 and 9 were made by him. Witness then gave a detailed description of the exits of all the sheds from sheds 1 to 16 describing in detail the situation of the stairways and the doors, and the number of entrances to each of the sheds.

By the Coroner—The doors in all the sheds were simple openings. All the doors in the sheds sloped towards the Race Course and that people further back in the sheds could obtain a view of the races.

W. J. Morrison, a volunteer fireman, said he assisted at the fire at the Race Course. Witness and some other persons attempted to throw buckets of water on the fire, but were unable to get near the fire owing to the great heat.

R. Main, another volunteer fireman, said he believed that if the hose had been ready and full of water, and turned on the exact spot where the fire commenced, it might have been possible to extinguish the fire. Every thing possible was done.

By the Coroner—He had some experience of fire in Shanghai and Tientsin.

Det-Sgt. Field said he was assisting in the rescue work, until the fire compelled them to stop. He then assisted in the fire.

By Mr. Bowley—The first branch of hose played on the fire at the right hand side of shed No. 19. He examined the sheds at about 2.45 p.m. that day. He was not at the lower floor. He did not hear anything. He saw people run and was about to follow them when the shed came down. He heard from his brother that the matched lashings had been cut but could not say whether it was true or not.

By Mr. Bowley—He heard it from his brother a few days after the disaster.

By a Juror—He spoke to his brother through the telephone on the night of the collapse and he mentioned with regard to the cutting of lashings. The inquiry is proceeding.

HONGKONG DEFENCE CORPS.

Orders for Artillery Company by Capt. J. H. W. Armstrong, Y.D.

PARADES AT BELCHERS BATTERY.
Thursday, 28th inst.—
7.30 a.m.—Right Half Company.
D.R.F. Class only.
8.15 p.m.—Left Half Company. D.R.F. Class only.

Orders for Engineer Company by Captain W. Russell.

2nd to 25th inst.—
M. L. HANNING NIGHTLY.
Parades as per rosters posted at Headquarters: Engine drivers at 6.15 p.m.; electricians at 6.30 p.m.

OFFICERS NEXT FOR DUTY.
Belchers—2nd Lieut. Mathewman.
Lycemum—2nd Lieut. Templeton.
Stonemasons—2nd Lieut. Marley.
INSTRUCTION FOR S.E.O. AND MEN OF INFANTRY BATTALION ATTACHED FOR DUTY.
Class 1 at Belchers at 8.30 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays.
Class 2 at Lycemum at 8.30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays.
Class 3 at Lycemum at 6.30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays, under Staff.
Serge. Overdone and Parsons, R.E., Corp. Day and 2nd Corp. Norris, H.K.D.C., at Belchers; and Staff Serg. Lurley and White, R.E., and Serg. Williams, H.K.D.C., at Lycemum.

Orders for Infantry Battalion by Major H. A. Morgan.

PARADES.
"A" Company.
Thursday, 28th inst.—
4.30 p.m.—Annual Musketry Course.
Part 3, Practices 15, 16, 17 and 18, at King's Park Range, for all who have not fired these practices. Dress, etc., as above.

"B" Company.
Thursday, 28th inst.—
4.30 p.m.—Annual Musketry Course.
Part 3, Practices 15, 16, 17 and 18, at King's Park Range, for all who have not fired these practices. Dress, etc., as above.

5.15 p.m.—Nos. 5 and 6 Platoons on Cricket Ground. Dress, drill order, machine gun company.
Thursday, 28th inst.—
4.30 p.m.—Annual Musketry Course.
Part 3, Practices 15, 16, 17 and 18, at King's Park Range, for all who have not fired these practices. Dress, etc., as above.

5.10 p.m.—Drill at Headquarters. The following men only need attend—Ptes. Field, Irvine, Labrum, Logan, McKenna, Pinquet and Stapleton.
MOUNTED SECTION.
Thursday, 28th inst.—
4.30 p.m.—Annual Musketry Course.
Part 3, Practices 15, 16, 17 and 18, at King's Park Range, for all who have not fired these practices. Dress, etc., as above.

5.15 p.m.—At Jockey Club Stables. Dress, drill order without rifles.
DISMOUNTED SECTION.
Thursday, 28th inst.—
4.30 p.m.—Annual Musketry Course.
Part 3, Practices 15, 16, 17 and 18, at King's Park Range. Dress, etc., as above.

RECRUITS.
Thursday, 28th inst.—
5.15 p.m.—All units, except "D" Company, on Murray Parade Ground on Monday and at Headquarters on Thursday under Serg. Edmonds and Corp. Grimes. Dress, drill order.
"D" COMPANY.
Thursday, 28th inst.—
5.15 p.m.—All Sections. Rifle exercises and Section drill at Headquarters. Dress, drill order.

G. E. STEWART,
Captain,
Adjutant, H.K. Defence Corps.
Hongkong, 22nd March, 1918.

HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

Orders issued by Mr. F. C. Jankin, D.F.P. (R.).

PATROLMEN.
Foot Patrolmen who do not in due course receive their warnings for duty for next period of 5 weeks (4th April to 5th May) must apply to their Warning Officers for same.

SEASON SUPERVISORS.
This Squad will commence duty on Thursday, 4th April. Members who do not receive warnings for duty before that date are made responsible for obtaining same from their respective Warning Officers, i.e. Inspectors Barlow or Wei Wing Sam.

RECRUITS.
References to Order hereon dated 22nd March, all ranks below the rank of Inspector will carry truncheons when on patrol or police duty in uniform. The carrying of truncheons when off duty in uniform is optional.

By Order,
T. F. HOGAN,
A.S.P. (R.), and Adjutant

"Compare the work"



The Typewriter of Triple Service—
Letter Making,
Card Typing,
Billing,
all in one.

More work with less effort.

ALEX ROSS & Co.,

4, Des Vaux Road Central.

METALS

of all kinds, especially for shipbuilding and engineering works. Largest and best assorted stock in the Colony.

SINGON & CO.

(Established A.D. 1880).

HING LUNG ST. PHONE 518

Today's Advertisements

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (for account of the concerned), on

WEDNESDAY, the 27th April, 1918, commencing at 2.30 p.m., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, Corner of Ix House Street,

TEAKWOOD AND BLACKWOOD FURNITURE, BRASS AND TEAK TWIN BEDSTEPS, CURTAINS, CARPETS, PICTURES, &c., AND AN ASSORTMENT OF USEFUL HOUSEHOLD GOODS.

As follows:—
Arm-chairs and Chesterfield Sofas, Card Tables, Upholstered Suites, &c., Bedroom Furniture, comprising Double and Single Beds and Brass-mounted Bedsteads, and Twin Bedsteads, Sideboards, Dinner Waggon, Extension Dining Tables and Chairs, Tea and Occasional Tables, &c., Dinner Services, Crockery, Glass Ware, Cooking Stoves, Cutlery, Toilet Sets, &c., Bath Room Utensils, Sundry Electro-Plated Ware.

Electric Reading Lamps, Blackwood and Teakwood Screens, Blackwood Furniture, including large 6-Fold Blackwood Screen with 6-Coloured Panels, Side Tables, &c., Engravings, Pictures, &c., &c., Tennis Rackets and Net, Iron Safe, Several Carpets, &c., &c.

Also
2 PIANOS and 1 RUBBER TYRED RICKSHA.
(Full Particulars from Catalogue.)
Terms:—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers,
Hongkong, Mar. 27, 1918.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (for account of the concerned), on

WEDNESDAY, the 27th April, 1918, commencing at 2.30 p.m., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, Corner of Ix House Street,

An Assortment of HOUSEHOLD LINENS, &c., comprising:—

Single and Double Plain and Hem-stitched Sheets, Pillow Cases, Bed Quilts, Table Cloths, Pure Linen Damask Serviettes, Bath Sheets, Bath Towels, Turkish Towels.

Terms:—Cash.
HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers,
Hongkong, Mar. 27, 1918.

HONGKONG TIDES.

The tide-table given below has been compiled at the National Almanac Office in London from the result of the analysis of observations taken by means of an automatic tide-recording machine in the Water Police Basin at Tsim Sha Tsui during the years 1905-6. The zero of the table corresponds with the zero of the sounding in the Admiralty Chart, which has been found to be 4 feet 3 inches below mean sea-level. To obtain the depth of water on the tide gauge at the Victoria Naval Yard add 3 feet 4 inches, and on the gauge at Lamport Dock, Aberdeen, add 10 feet 4 inches to the height given in the table.

March 26th to April 2nd, 1918.

HIGH WATER					LOW WATER				
Day	Month	Year	Hour	Mean Time	Height	Day	Month	Year	Mean Time
Mar.	26	19	10	10 15	4.7	Mar.	27	19	10 15
Mar.	27	19	10	10 30	4.7	Mar.	28	19	10 15
Mar.	28	19	10	10 45	4.7	Mar.	29	19	10 15
Mar.	29	19	10	11 00	4.7	Mar.	30	19	10 15
Mar.	30	19	10	11 15	4.7	Mar.	31	19	10 15
Mar.	31	19	10	11 30	4.7	Mar.	1	20	10 15
Mar.	1	20	10	11 45	4.7	Mar.	2	20	10 15
Mar.	2	20	10	12 00	4.7	Mar.	3	20	10 15
Mar.	3	20	10	12 15	4.7	Mar.	4	20	10 15
Mar.	4	20	10	12 30	4.7	Mar.	5	20	10 15
Mar.	5	20	10	12 45	4.7	Mar.	6	20	10 15
Mar.	6	20	10	13 00	4.7	Mar.	7	20	10 15
Mar.	7	20	10	13 15	4.7	Mar.	8	20	10 15
Mar.	8	20	10	13 30	4.7	Mar.	9	20	10 15
Mar.	9	20	10	13 45	4.7	Mar.	10	20	10 15
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Mar.	18	20	10	16 00	4.7	Mar.	19	20	10 15
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Mar.	20	20	10	16 30	4.7	Mar.	21	20	10 15
Mar.	21	20	10	16 45	4.7	Mar.	22	20	10 15
Mar.	22	20	10	17 00	4.7	Mar.	23	20	10 15
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Mar.	6	21	10	20 45	4.7	Mar.	7	21	10 15
Mar.	7	21	10	21 00	4.7	Mar.	8	21	10 15
Mar.	8	21	10	21 15	4.7	Mar.	9	21	10 15
Mar.	9	21	10	21 30	4.7	Mar.	10	21	10 15
Mar.	10	21	10	21 45	4.7	Mar.	11	21	10 15
Mar.	11	21	10	22 00	4.7	Mar.	12	21	10 15
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Mar.	19	21	10	24 00	4.7	Mar.	20	21	10 15
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Mar.	22	21	10	24 45	4.7	Mar.	23	21	10 15
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Mar.	3	22	10	27 45	4.7	Mar.	4	22	10 15
Mar.	4	22	10	28 00	4.7	Mar.	5	22	10 15
Mar.	5	22	10	28 15	4.7	Mar.	6	22	10 15
Mar.	6	22	10	28 30	4.7	Mar.	7	22	10 15
Mar.	7	22	10	28 45	4.7	Mar.	8	22	10 15
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Mar.	19	22	10	31 45	4.7	Mar.	20	22	10 15
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Mar.	21	22	10	32 15	4.7	Mar.	22	22	10 15
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Mar.	23	22	10	32 45	4.7	Mar.	24	22	10 15
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Mar.	30	22	10	34 30	4.7	Mar.	31	22	10 15
Mar.	31	22	10	34 45	4.7	Mar.	1	23	10 15
Mar.	1	23	10	35 00	4.7	Mar.	2	23	10 15
Mar.	2	23	10	35 15	4.7	Mar.	3	23	10 15
Mar.	3	23	10	35 30	4.7	Mar.	4	23	10 15
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Mar.	6	23	10	36 15	4.7	Mar.	7	23	10 15
Mar.	7	23	10	36 30	4.7	Mar.	8	23	10 15
Mar.	8	23	10	36 45	4.7	Mar.	9	23	10 15
Mar.	9	23	10	37 00	4.7	Mar.	10	23	10 15
Mar.	10	23	10	37 15	4.7	Mar.	11	23	10 15
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Mar.	21	23	10	40 00	4.7	Mar.	22	23	10 15
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Mar.	29	23	10	42 00	4.7	Mar.	30	23	10 15
Mar.	30	23	10	42 15	4.7	Mar.	31	23	10 15
Mar.	31	23	10	42 30	4.7	Mar.	1	24	10 15
Mar.	1	24	10	42 45	4.7	Mar.	2	24	10 15
Mar.	2	24	10	43 00	4.7	Mar.	3	24	10 15
Mar.	3	24	10	43 15	4.7	Mar.	4	24	10 15
Mar.	4	24	10	43 30	4.7	Mar.	5	24	10 15
Mar.	5	24	10	43 45	4.7	Mar.	6	24	10 15
Mar.	6	24	10	44 00	4.7	Mar.	7	24	10 15
Mar.	7	24	10	44 15	4.7	Mar.	8	24	10 15
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Mar.	13	24	10	45 45	4.7	Mar.	14	24	10 15
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Mar.	16	24	10	46 30	4.7	Mar.	17	24	10 15
Mar.	17	24	10	46 45	4.7	Mar.	18	24	10 15
Mar.	18	24	10	47 00	4.7	Mar.	19	24	10 15
Mar.	19	24	10	47 15	4.7	Mar.	20	24	10 15
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Mar.	22	24	10	48 00	4.7	Mar.	23	24	10 15
Mar.	23	24	10	48 15	4.7	Mar.	24	24	10 15
Mar.	24	24	10	48 30	4.7	Mar.	25	24	10 15
Mar.	25	24	10	48 45	4.7	Mar.	26	24	10 15
Mar.	26	24	10	49 00	4.7	Mar.	27	24	10 15
Mar.	27	24	10	49 15	4.7	Mar.	28</		